

WEEK 1 & 2



4 Themes RESEARCH

MAJA SZWED

www.sites.wsagames.com/ms22g23



quick OVERVIEW

LANGUAGE

TIME

SPACE

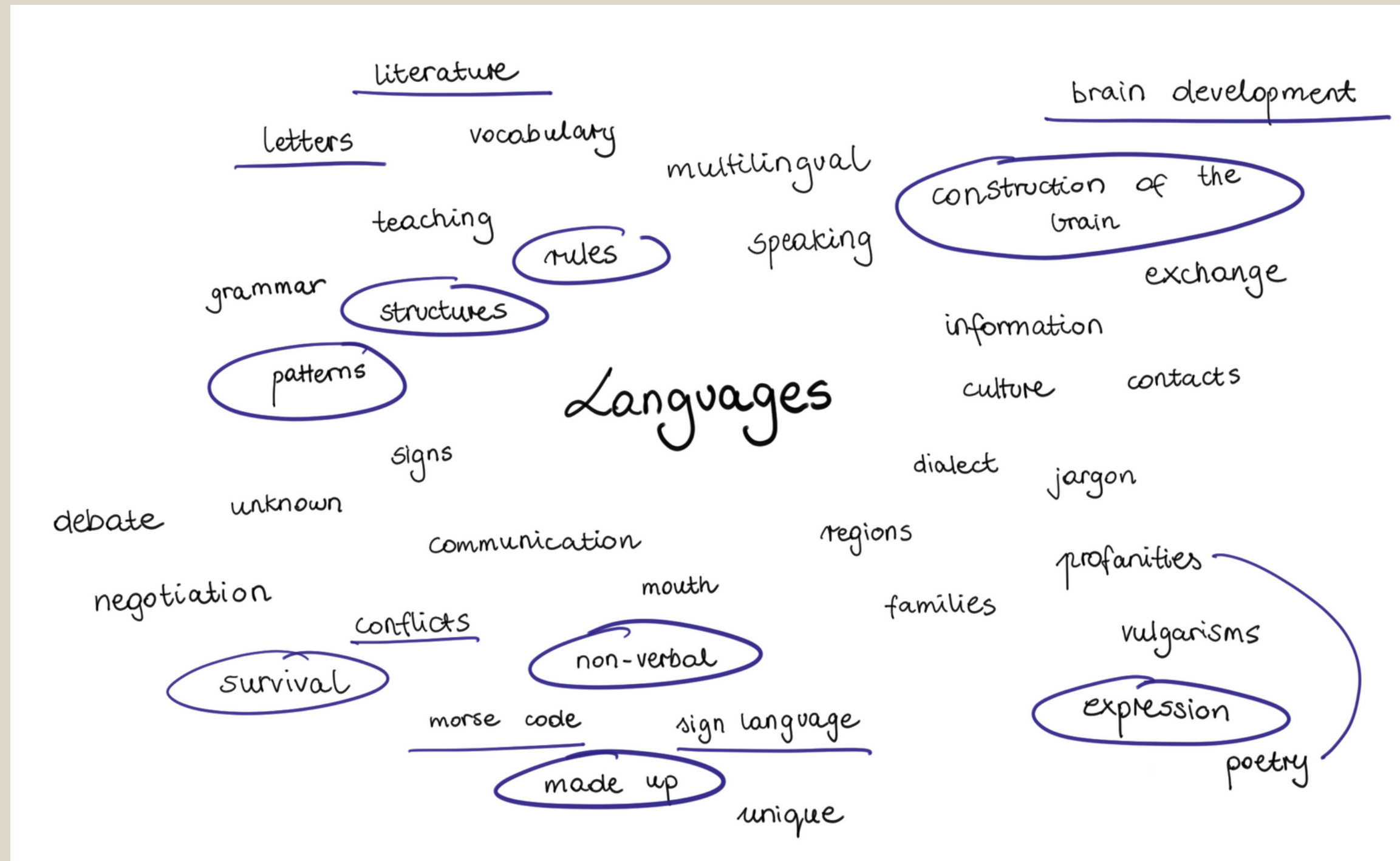
MONEY

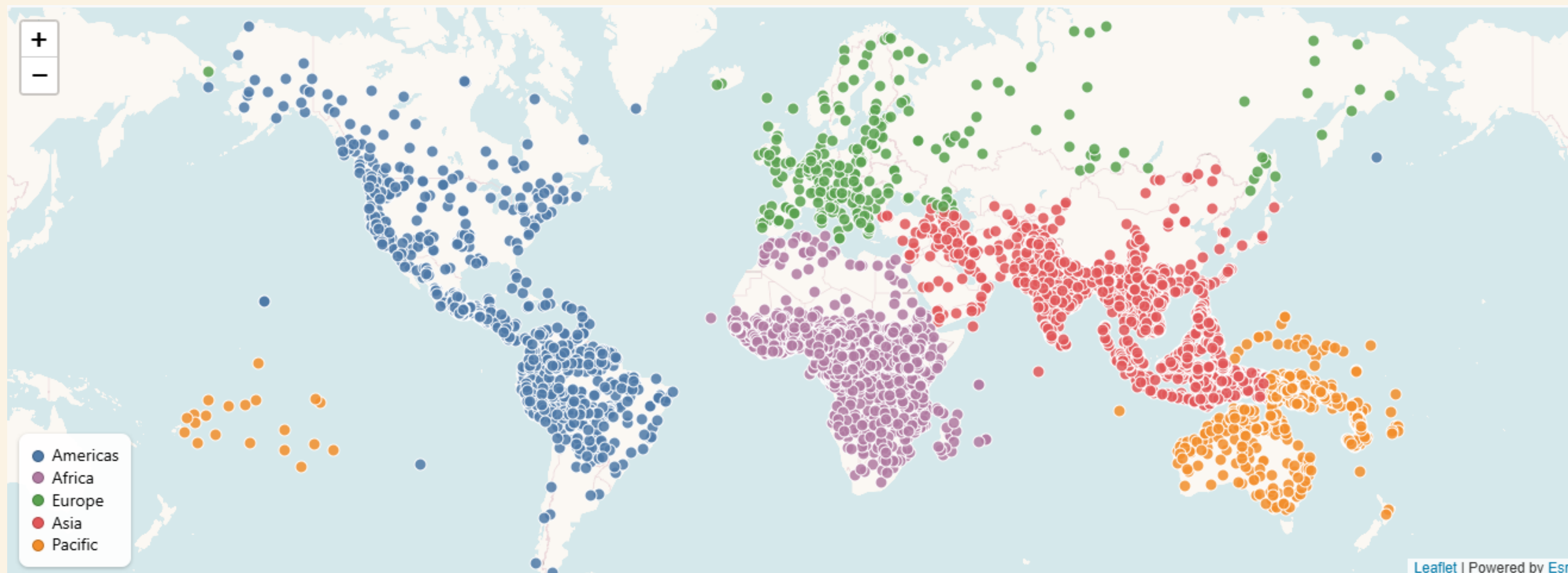


the theme of
LANGUAGE

The starting point for my research

POINT ZERO





31 000

different linguistic
systems in human history

7 000 +

languages still in
use today

44%

of all languages are
endangered, many with
fewer than **1 000 speakers**

0.3%

of all languages – are
spoken by over **3.7
billion people**

LANGUAGE MECHANICS



SKETCH 1

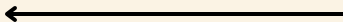
Sketch of how decoding a non-verbal, made-up language mechanic could work in game. It can also contain survival element. The player has the ability to note down what they think the signs mean. For example, a sign on the club could mean "weapon" or be someone's signature.



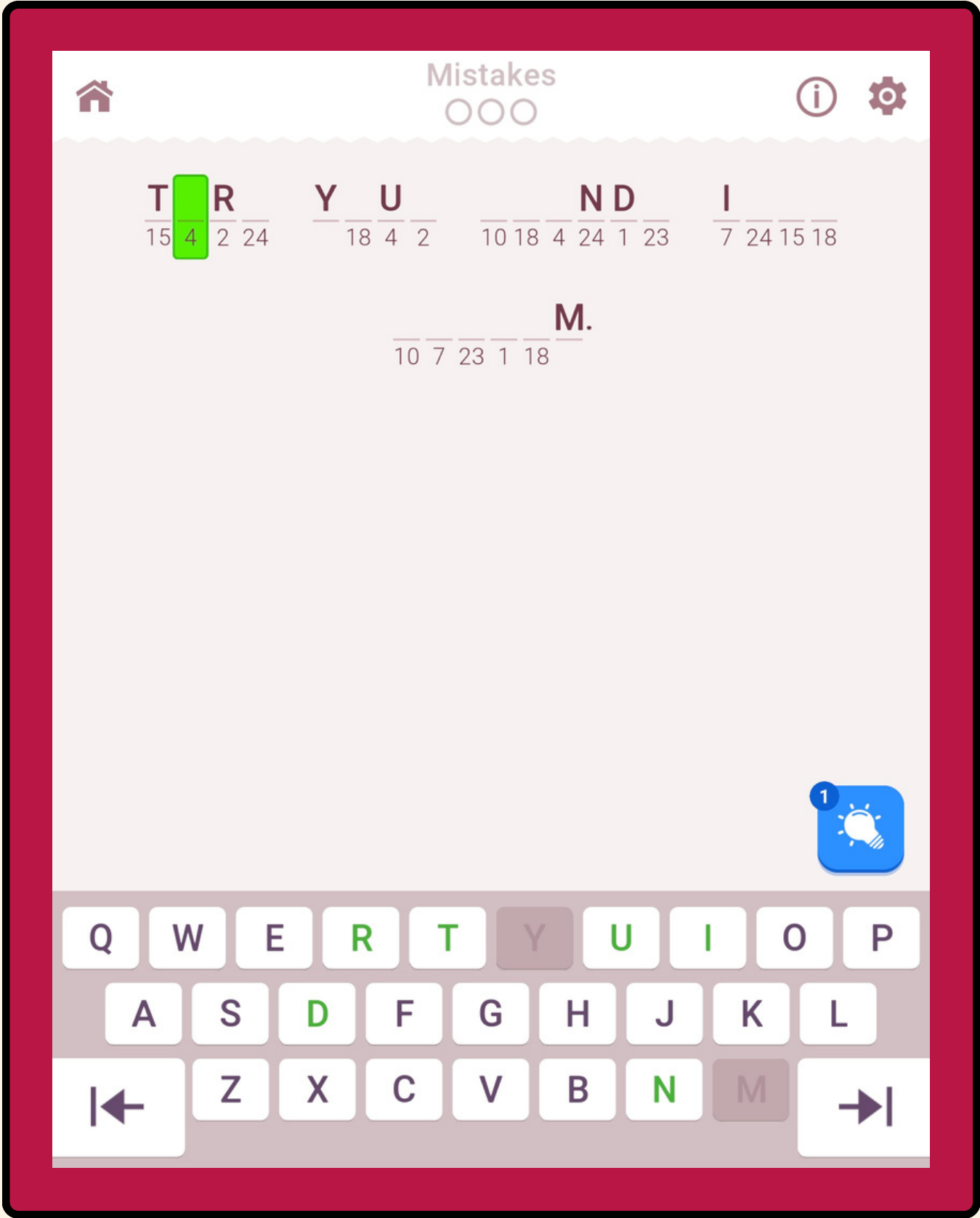
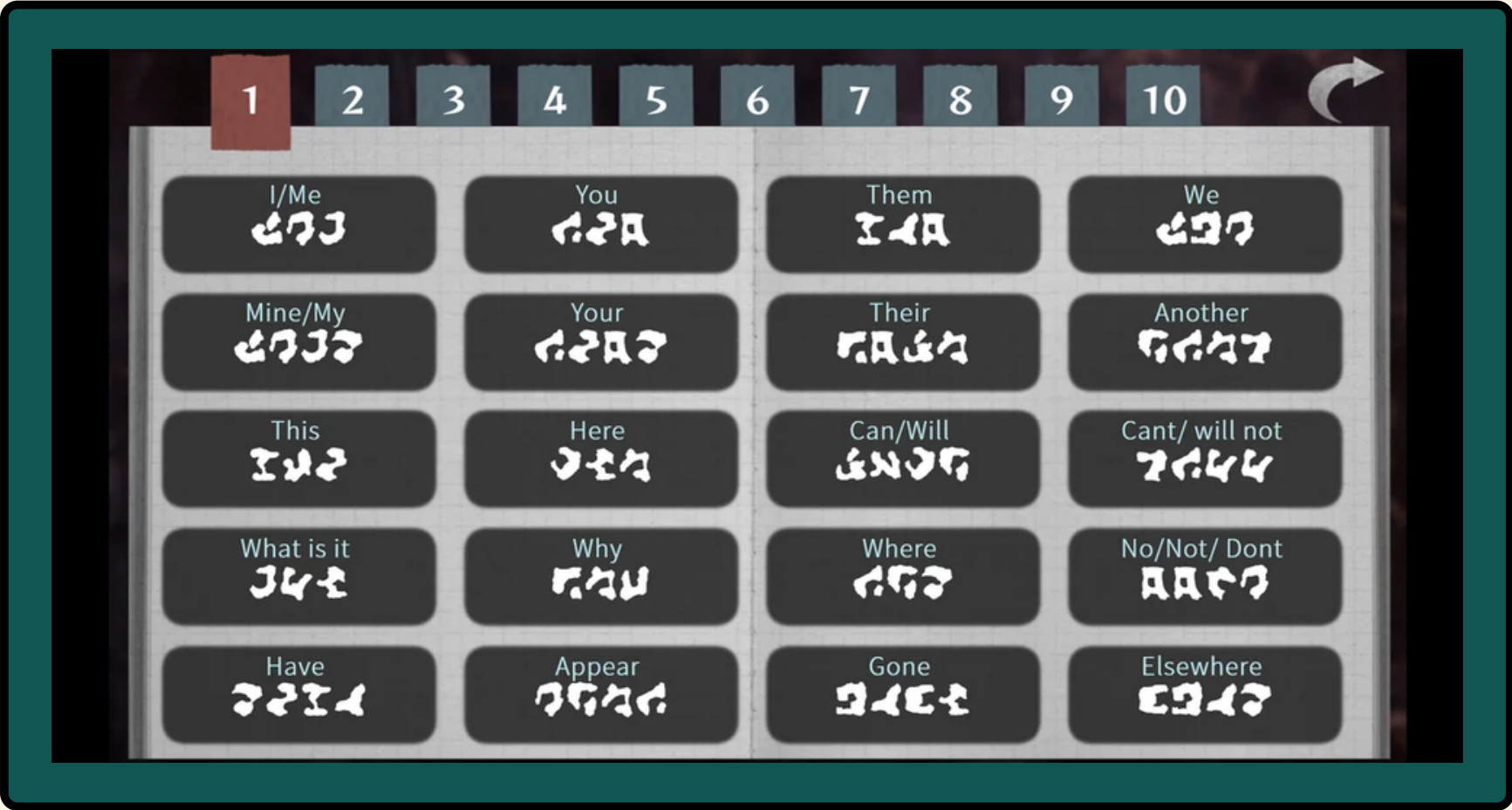
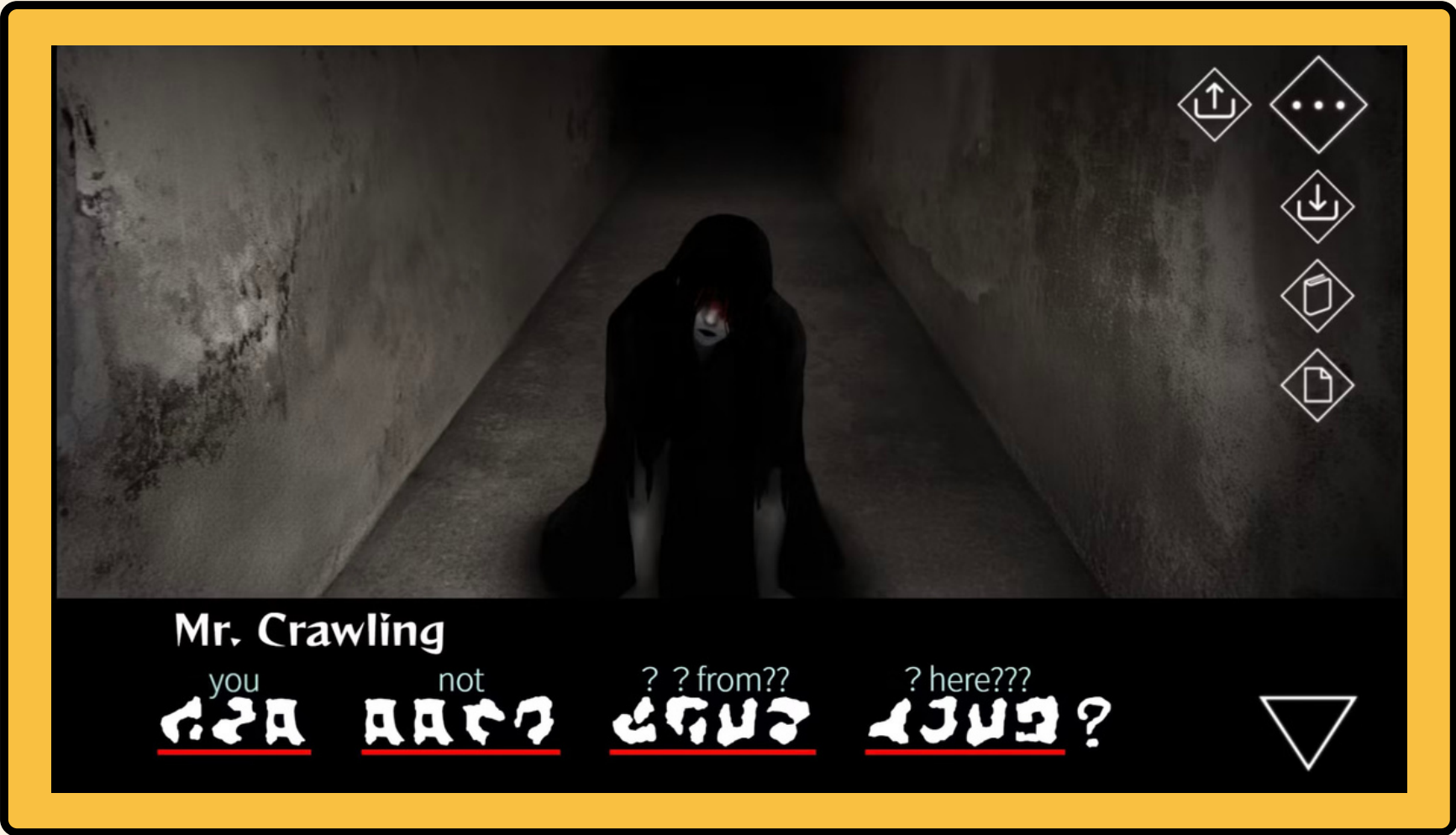
SKETCH 2

Second sketch representing the mechanic of patterns, structures or rules. The sign from the first sketch is repeated in the second sketch. If it's the second time the player encounters this sign, they can note down what they think it means, with the ability to access and change their notes at any time. For example, this sign could be guiding the player in certain direction or it could simply mean "tree".

HOMICIPHER



CRYPTOGRAM: WORD BRAIN PUZZLE



the theme of **TIME**

“Language affects how we perceive time”

The concept of “INTERIOR TIME”

Language largely composes and segments time. I mean this in both a ‘weak’ and a ‘strong’ sense. The weak sense relates to the actual psychology of time-perception, to the ways in which the language-flow in and amid which we pass much of our conscious existence, helps determine our experience of temporality.

It is likely that the current of language passing through the mind, either in voluntary self-address or in the perhaps random but almost certainly uninterrupted soliloquy of mental activity, contributes largely to the definition of ‘interior time’.

WHAT ALTERS THE PERCEPTION OF TIME?

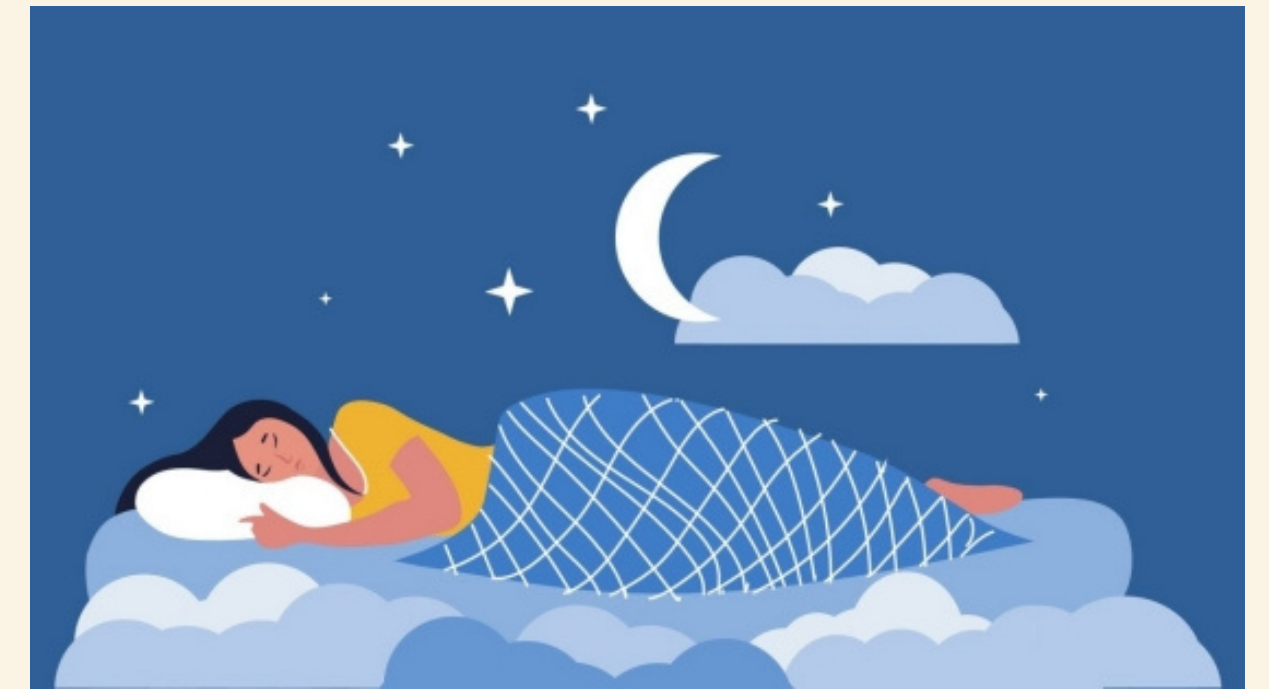
Exhaustion
Common stress
Schizophrenic disturbances
Hunger
Psychoactive substances
Many more

Steiner, G. (1992) After Babel: aspects of language and translation. 2nd ed. Oxford: Oxford University Press.



Himura Kenshin on Pinterest

what is **CIRCADIAN RHYTHM**



A circadian rhythm is the body's internal 24-hour cycle that regulates physical, mental, and behavioral processes – especially the sleep – wake pattern – in response to environmental cues like light and darkness. Controlled by a master clock in the brain (the suprachiasmatic nucleus), circadian rhythms synchronize essential functions such as hormone release, body temperature, metabolism, and alertness to align with the day – night cycle.

MICHEL SIFFRE

WHAT WOULD HAPPEN TO A PERSON'S CIRCADIAN RHYTHMS IF THEY WERE CUT OFF FROM ALL ZEITGEBERS?

SIFFRE'S CAVE STUDY

Michel Siffre spent 179 days alone in an underground cave with no natural light, clocks, or external time cues. His only contact with the outside world was via telephone, and his behavior and bodily functions were monitored remotely.

FINDINGS

Initially, Siffre's sleep - wake cycle was irregular, but it eventually stabilized at around 25 hours - slightly longer than the normal 24-hour day.



CONCLUSION

Siffre concluded that humans have an internal biological clock that regulates the sleep - wake cycle. Without external cues (zeitgebers), this rhythm naturally extends to about 25 hours.

https://online-learning-college.com/knowledge-hub/gcses/gcse-psychology-help/michel-siffre/?srsltid=AfmBOoqL5gP0EfLidPai3pS2j9T3W_a99fwz9T2PfQWk_RjidZm-e8cO





what are ZEITGEBERS



The term zeitgeber (literally, time giver or time cue) refers to environmental variables that are capable of acting as circadian time cues. The light/dark cycle is the most important zeitgeber, but other stimuli such as melatonin can also function as zeitgebers.

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/topics/agricultural-and-biological-sciences/zeitgeber>

EXAMPLES

LIGHT

MEAL TIMES

SOCIAL INTERACTIONS

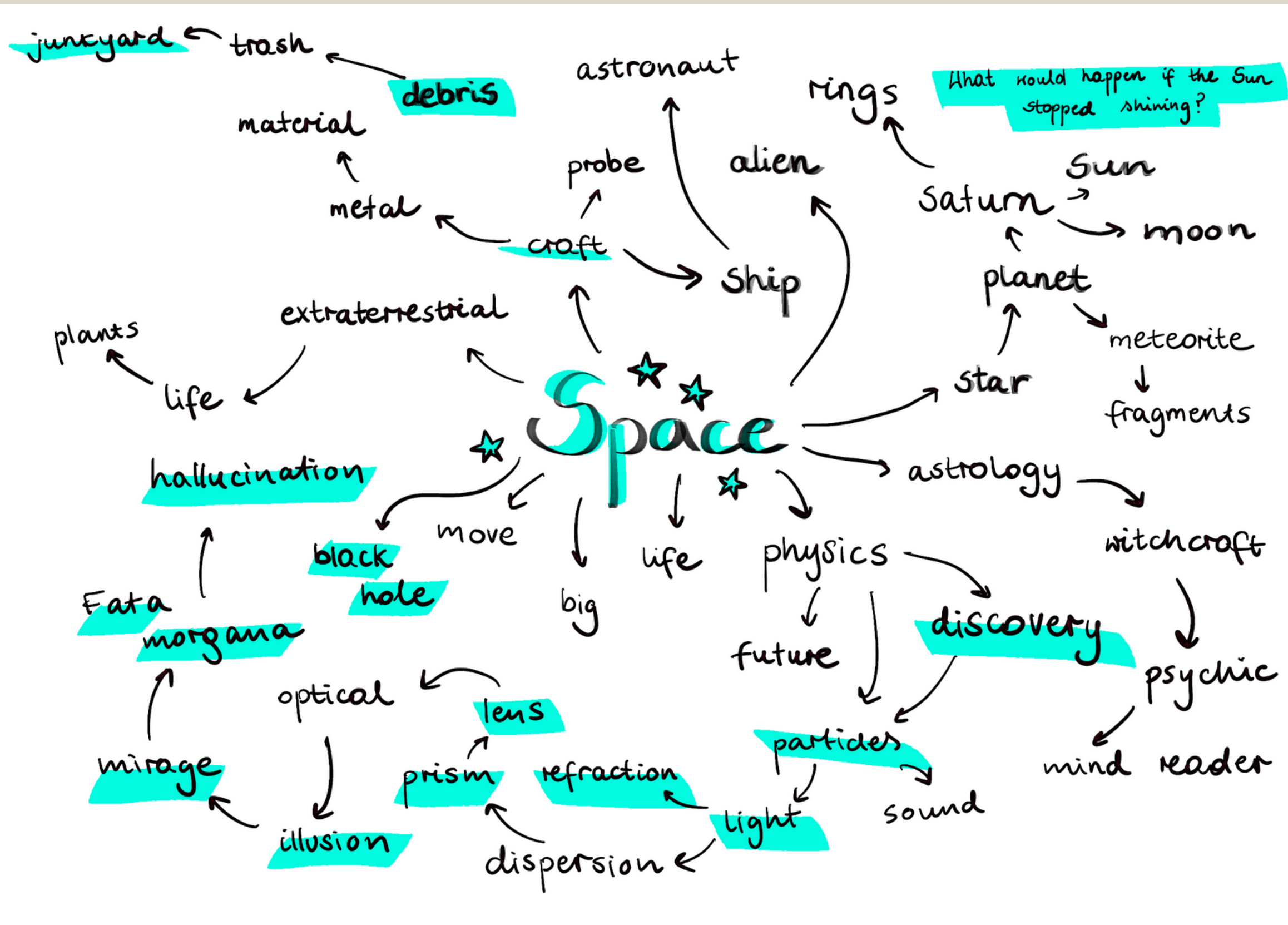
TEMPERATURE

EXERCISE

SOUND

the theme of
SPACE

From time to space





what is SPACE



OUTSIDE EARTH

Space is an almost perfect vacuum, nearly void of matter and with extremely low pressure.

<https://www.space.com/24870-what-is-space.html>



RELATIONISM

Space consists of relationships between material objects such as planets, humans, and coffee mugs.

<https://1000wordphilosophy.com/2022/08/03/what-is-space>



SUBSTANTIVALISM

Space is something real, like a material object but not made of matter. It is made of many identical points, understood as infinitesimal, immaterial “containers” for matter.

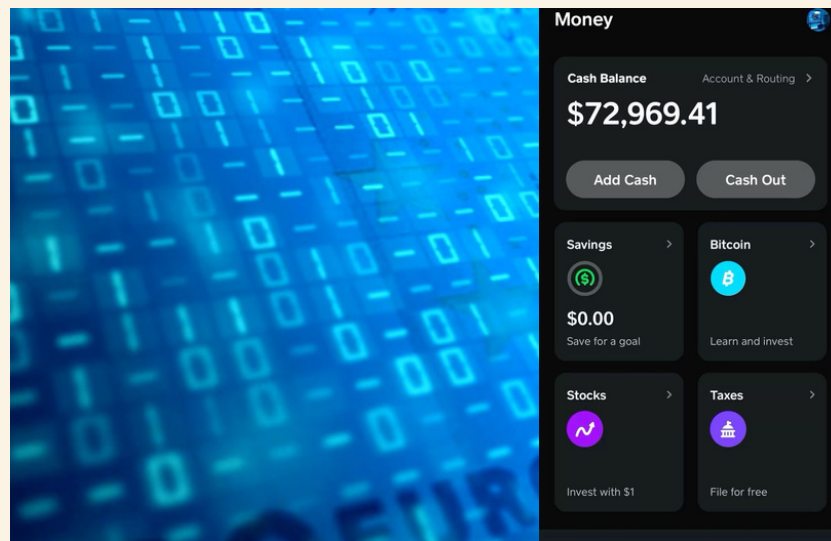
the theme of
MONEY

What would happen if everyone in the world was rich?

what is MONEY?

A commodity accepted by general consent as a medium of economic exchange. It is the medium in which prices and values are expressed; as currency, it circulates anonymously from person to person and country to country, thus facilitating trade, and it is the principal measure of wealth.

Meltzer, A.H. and Friedman, M. (2024). Britannica Money. [www.britannica.com](https://www.britannica.com/money/money). Available at: <https://www.britannica.com/money/money>.



MONEY VS. CURRENCY

MONEY

intangible concept

The basic form of money is numbers while the basic form of currency is paper banknotes, coins, or plastic cards like credit or debit cards.

Beattie, A. (2022). The History Of Money: From Barter To Banknotes. Investopedia. Available at: https://www.investopedia.com/articles/07/roots_of_money.asp [Accessed 11 Oct. 2025].

CURRENCY

physical manifestation of the
concept of money

coins, notes or any other objects



The origin of **MONEY**

Guanzhuang, China – discovery of the oldest coin minting site dating back to 640 BCE

Ancient Kingdom of Lydia (modern-day Turkey) – creation of coins made of electrum around 600 – 625 BCE

WHY WAS MONEY CREATED?

enabling barter for merchants and customers

collection of taxes and debts by the government

Money emerges primarily as a political technology, not an economic technology.

History. (2021). 'World's oldest' coin factory discovered in China. Available at: [Spade-shaped coins discovered in Huangzhuang](#).

Spade-shaped coins discovered in Huangzhuang



Lydian coins made of electrum



Thank you for your
ATTENTION